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CITY of BEAVERTON

NEWS RELEASE

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SOUTH COOPER MOUNTAIN PLANNING CONTINUES WITH OPEN HOUSE ON FEB. 22

BEAVERTON, Ore. – The City of Beaverton is continuing the South Cooper Mountain planning process with an open house on Feb. 22 from 10 a.m. to noon at Scholls Heights Elementary School (16400 SW Loon Dr., Beaverton). An online version of the open house will be available through March 2 at www.BeavertonOregon.gov/SouthCooperPlan.

The open house follows a public Vision Workshop held in July. Using feedback from the workshop, the project team created planning scenarios that considered a range of approaches to land use, open space, transportation, and housing for South Cooper Mountain. The scenarios were reviewed by the project's Technical and Citizen Advisory Committees and then underwent technical and design evaluations for utilities, transportation, land use, and natural resources.

The open house will feature refined Concept Plan Scenarios that combine elements from the initial plans that best fulfill the project's guiding principles.

The city is seeking public feedback specific to the three unique subareas within the project area.

- For the **South Cooper Mountain Annexation Area**, the scenarios were refined to show how this subarea could develop over the next 20 years into a livable community with a variety of housing options, walkable neighborhoods, connected streets and trails, a mixed use Main Street, open space, neighborhood parks, and schools.
- The scenarios also explore the future of **North Cooper Mountain** where changes are only expected with extension of public sewer services in order to replace private septic tanks as they fail or to service new homes in the area.
- In the **Urban Reserve Area** the scenarios show how natural resource preservation and development concepts could be applied in the subarea if it is brought into the urban growth boundary in the future.

The city is also seeking feedback on potential transportation improvements that would impact local driving, walking, biking, and transit options, while helping to reduce regional traffic congestion.

The final South Cooper Mountain Concept Plan will provide an overall vision and framework for how the area would be expected to develop over the next 20-50 years. Detailed Community Plans

for the South Cooper Mountain Annexation Area and for North Cooper Mountain will follow and will determine how those subareas accommodate future housing, commercial areas, transportation and utility infrastructure, trails and parks, and public facilities as appropriate. The draft Concept and Community Plans, along with proposed implementation and financing strategies, are expected to be completed by late summer 2014.

Additional project details and an interested-parties signup form are available on the project website: www.BeavertonOregon.gov/SouthCooperPlan.

For more information, contact Valerie Sutton, senior planner, City of Beaverton Community Development Dept., at vsutton@BeavertonOregon.gov or 503-526-2496.

ABOUT BEAVERTON

In 2014, Beaverton was again recognized as the **safest city in Oregon** as well as the **safest city** in the entire Pacific Northwest. In 2012, the city was awarded the **Mayors' Climate Protection Award** from the U.S. Conference of Mayors. It was one of just four cities of its size recently recognized as a **"Smarter City" energy leader by the Natural Resources Defense Council** and **one of the 100 Best Places to Live in America** by *Money* magazine. In addition, Beaverton was named one of the **best places to raise kids** by *BusinessWeek* magazine, an **All-America City finalist**, as **one of the top 25 Suburbs for Retirement** by *Forbes.com*, **one of the 100 Best Walking Cities in America** by *Prevention* magazine, the **Recycler of the Year** from the Association of Oregon Recyclers, a **Tree City USA** by the Arbor Day Foundation, a **Bronze Award Bicycle Friendly Community** designation by the League of American Bicyclists and as one of the Environmental Protection Agency's **Green Power Communities**, the Beaverton Community Vision program was named **Public Involvement Project of the Year—Best Planning Project** by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Cascade Chapter. Beaverton also enjoys one of the most diverse populations in Oregon. For more information, reminders and community news, visit www.BeavertonOregon.gov, like the City of Beaverton on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton, or follow on Twitter at www.twitter.com/CityofBeaverton.

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Caption: The South Cooper Mountain planning area is located on the southwest edge of Beaverton, north of SW Scholls Ferry Road.